

10A NCAC 48B .0304 BENCHMARK 7

(a) Benchmark: The local health department shall maintain and implement epidemiological case investigation protocols providing for rapid detection and containment of communicable disease outbreaks; environmental health hazards; potential biological, chemical and radiological threats.

(b) Activities:

- (1) The local health department shall have epidemiological case investigation protocols in place.
- (2) The local health department shall conduct communicable disease investigations, follow-up, documentation and reporting activities.
- (3) The local health department shall investigate and respond to environmental health complaints or referrals.
- (4) The local health department shall have a public health preparedness and response plan that:
 - (A) corresponds to existing local and state emergency and bioterrorism plans
 - (B) establishes roles and responsibilities of plan participants
 - (C) identifies training for participants in those roles
 - (D) establishes a chain of command among plan participants
 - (E) describes a system of emergency notification to local and state public health staff and other key decision makers based upon the nature of the event
 - (F) is available to staff on site
- (5) The local health director shall maintain periodic communication with local emergency managers.
- (6) The local health department shall annually test or implement the local public health preparedness and response plan.
- (7) The local health department shall have one of the following:
 - (A) public health preparedness and response coordination team with an environmental health member and a public health preparedness response coordinator, or
 - (B) an epidemiology team with an environmental health member and an epidemiology team coordinator.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-34.1;
Temporary Adoption Eff. January 1, 2006;
Eff. October 1, 2006;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 5, 2016.*